

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

STANFORD, CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF
BACTERIOLOGY AND EXPERIMENTAL PATHOLOGY

October 5, 1950

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I am sorry to have missed you during your visit on the Stanford Campus this summer. I have followed your studies with great interest and hope that you will place my name on your mailing list for reprints. I have placed your name on my list as requested.

Escherichia coli (K-12) was isolated by Dr. Blair in the fall of 1922 from the stools of a diphtheria convalescent and was identified at that time as an E. coli by the ordinary laboratory tests. It has been maintained in our stock culture collection since 1925 and is used in our laboratory as the typical coli culture. Many of our studies on bacteriophage and on growth and metabolism have been carried out with this strain, cultures of which we have supplied other laboratories and individuals.

We have recorded the following characteristics of this strain:

Morphology and staining reactions: Small plump gram negative rods with rounded ends occurring singly.
Motile.

Characteristics on solid media: smooth whitish, moist growth.
E.M.B. agar: colonies show metallic lustre.
Potato: yellow-brown growth.
Simmon's citrate agar: no growth.
MacConkeys: good brick red colonies.
Endo: good - excellent metallic sheen.
Endo + 1/2% lithium chloride: not as good as Endo.
E.M.B.: good - colonies small - metallic sheen.

Characteristics on liquid media: Plain broth: turbid, slight pellicle and sediment.

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Biochemical activities: V.P. -. M.R. +. Lead acetate -. Nitrates reduced. Indol +. Gelatin not liquefied. Litmus milk acid and coagulation. Acid and gas in dextrose, lactose, mannite, maltose, salicin, dextrin (sl.) galactose, levulose, glycerol and dulcitol. No action in sucrose.

Sincerely yours,



C. E. Clifton

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